

ELIZABETHTOWN - HAYCRAFT'S HISTORY
KENTUCKY

DRAWER 11

71.2005 285 05005

KENTUCKY
(by County Folders)

Kentucky

Counties & Towns

Elizabethtown

Haycraft's History

Excerpts from newspapers and other sources

From the files of the
Lincoln Financial Foundation Collection

HAYCRAFT'S HISTORY
of
ELIZABETHTOWN, KY.

HISTORY OF ELIZABETHTOWN

AND

HARDIN COUNTY.

BY HON. SAMUEL HAYCRAFT.

WRITTEN IN 1869.

CHAPTER LVII.

APOLOGETIC.

Business of importance of a public and private character, over which I had no control, has caused me to suspend my history from the 23d day of March past. I hope in future to be more regular until I close.

GOV. WM. P. DUVALL

was admitted to the bar in Elizabethtown in October, 1804.

He was born in Virginia in the year 1784, and there received his education. In his youth he was a little inclined to be wild, was fond of a gun, a chicken fight, or a horse race. While but a youth he determined to come to Kentucky, and so announced to his father; a consultation was held as to what should be his outfit. His father remarked, "If I give you a negro you will sell him the first chance and spend the money you get for him. If I give you a horse, you will bet him off at the first horse race you see, and if I give you a pocket full of money, you will bet it off or give it away, you love a gun and would not part with that.

So it finally wound up by giving him a strong suit of clothes fitted for the woods, a gun with ammunition, a knapsack with a shirt or two, and other light fixings.

With a light heart he took leave of his many relatives and told them he would never come back until he was a member of Congress—so he footed it over the mountains, and through the forests, crossing many rivers, and his only companion was his trusty rifle, which for a great portion of the travel furnished his food.

He arrived at Bardstown, Ky., and there halted, being satisfied that was a good location for him, laid aside his gun and commenced the study of law, under Judge Brodnax, and during the time of study fell in love with and married a daughter of Col. Andrew Hynes. Col. Hynes was the founder of Elizabethtown, and the town was named in honor of his wife, Elizabeth Hynes.

Duval having sown his wild oats, devoted himself to his studies, and soon commenced the practice of his profession. As no lawyer then resided in Elizabethtown, he was appointed county attorney of Hardin County, and was a regular practitioner in the Courts of the county until 1822.

In the year 1812 he became candidate for Congress, and such was his general popularity that no one opposed him. He served in Congress in 1813-14. On his first trip to Washington he visited his relatives in Virginia for the first time after leaving there, thus verifying his promise that he never would return to Virginia until he came as a Congressman.

In 1822 he was appointed Governor of Florida by President Monroe, and was reappointed by Adams and Jackson. While attending court in Elizabethtown in 1810, 1811 and 1812, he boarded at the house of Major Ben Helm, as also did Worden Pope and Fred W. S. Grayson. I was then a lad, acting under Major Ben Helm as deputy clerk, and sat at the same table, and it was a feast to listen to their pleasant conversation and sallies of wit.

Governor Duval was the very life of a social company, always humorous and pleasant, and was a good parlor singer. He was in fact one of the most generous hearted, liberal men that I ever knew, and his house in Bardstown was the seat of hospitality. But in his advanced years he was not without his troubles. His two sons, Burr H. Duvall and John Duvall were soldiers in the war between Texas and Mexico, and belonged to the command of Col. Fannin. That whole command were taken prisoners by the Mexicans. After detaining them two days, they were marched out with a Mexican regiment by the side of them, under the pretense they were to be removed to some other post. Two young Mexican officers who had been educated at St. Joseph's College in Bardstown, and well acquainted with the young Duvalls and often enjoyed the hospitality of Governor Duval, they promised ample protection to the young men, but proved faithless. After they had marched out clear of the encampment, they were halted in line, and the Mexicans ordered to fire upon them. At the first fire nearly all of Fannin's men fell dead. Burr H. Duvall and Jefferson Merrifield, also a Kentuckian fell dead. About four hundred men were thus brutally massacred. As if by a miracle John Duvall was not hit—and he ran for life with a squad of Mexicans after him, until they reached a river John

plunged in and swam across amidst a shower of musket balls, but escaped unwounded. He traveled several days without food and finally reached home.

In the year 1848 the Governor moved to Texas, and died in Washington City March 19, 1854.

At the same term William Watkins and George Strauther were admitted to the bar. They continued but a short time, and I can give no satisfactory account of them.

Judge Henry Davidge was admitted to the bar at April term, 1805. He did not continue long at the bar, but was promoted to the judicial bench in one of the lower circuits of the State. He was an amiable man of excellent character.

HON. BEN HARDIN

was admitted at the July term 1806 being the twenty-first lawyer sworn in the court at Elizabethtown. He was born in Westmorland county Pennsylvania in the year 1784.

He was a son of Ben Hardin who married Sarah Hardin, the eldest sister of Col. John Hardin, of whom I have heretofore spoken at length. And as I have in a previous number given all the decedents of Martin Hardin and Lydia, his wife, removed to Kentucky, the last one as early as 1787, and all except Rosannah Hardin settled in the same neighborhood near Springfield in Washington county.

The Hon. Ben Hardin of whom I now write, might be said to be all Hardin, as his father and mother were both Hardins, and first cousins.

Mr. Hardin, when a boy, received his first lessons in education under Ichabod Radley, and then at Bardstown under Daniel Barry, an Irish linguist.

Barry was an irritable man, and in a conversation with Gilpin, a silversmith killed him. After Barry was tried he removed to Hartford, now in Ohio county, and Mr. Hardin followed him to that place, as the best chance then in Kentucky to obtain an education, at least a knowledge of the dead languages.

Having completed his education he commenced the study of law under Gen. Martin D. Hardin, on the first day of April, 1804, at Richmond in Madison county Ky. At the April term of that court he became acquainted with William T. Barry, Samuel Woodson, George M. Bibb, John Pope and Wm. Owsley.

According to Mr. Hardin's own account of himself, he was humble and obscure. He had been a hard student and was of slender make, with very little flesh, so much so that his com-

He was called him "Tusky Works," but after life when fortune smiled upon him, he obtained more flesh and exhibited quite an imposing appearance. These gentlemen paid him some attention for which he was much gratified and the friendship thus formed, lasted up to his death, with Barry, Pope, Woodson and Bibb—not so with Owlesley. On 1st April, 1805, he returned to Bardstown and studied law under Felix Grundy. In June, 1806 he obtained his law license.

The fact that he commenced his law studies in April, 1804, acquired a thorough knowledge of ancient history, and laid the foundation for one of the most profound lawyers in Kentucky or elsewhere, got married to a Miss Barbour and removed to Elizabethtown and was sworn in as an attorney in July 1806, is proof sufficient that he was a hard student.

Mr Hardin resided in Elizabethtown not quite two years. A man named Wm. Bray living in the upper end of Hardin county, killed a man and was taken up for murder, some friends of the accused came to town and employed Mr. Hardin to defend Bray, and was free to inform him, that they wished him to attend to the case, until the big lawyers came down from Bardstown.

Those few words decided the case with Mr. Hardin; he went to his place of residence and told his wife to pack up with all speed, and move to Bardstown, or he never would be called a big lawyer, and before Bray was indicted at the spring term, 1808, Mr. Hardin was a resident of Bardstown, Ky., and remained so until his death.

As I have now run my limit for the paper, I must defer any further notice of Mr. Hardin for the next number.

(TO BE CONTINUED)

HISTORY OF ELIZABETHTOWN

AND

HARDIN COUNTY.

BY HON. SAMUEL HAYCRAFT.

WRITTEN IN 1869.

CHAPTER XXXII.

In the spring of the year, 1774, rendered memorable in Virginia by the expedition of Governor Dunmore against the Indians then at war, young Hardin, not then twenty years of age, was appointed an ensign in a militia company. In the August ensuing, he volunteered under Capt. Zach. Morgan; had an action with a party of Indians, in which he was wounded while on one knee, the better to support his rifle in aiming it against the enemy. The bullet struck his thigh on the outer side, ranged up it about seven inches, and lodged near the groin, whence it was never extracted. The enemy were beaten and fled. Thus early was he initiated into the mysteries of Indian warfare.

Before Ensign Hardin had recovered from his wound, or dispensed with his crutches, he joined Dunmore on his march to the Indian towns. In these transactions it is to be seen the spirit which prompts to the exercise of hunting, and the enterprise of war; the spirit which elevates men into heroes, and devotes them to their species and to fame.

Soon after the peace that ensued, Hardin turned his attention towards Kentucky as to a theatre for new adventures, and actually prepared for the journey with Col. Crawford and others, but this was declined, probably on account of the increasing rumors of war on the Atlantic coasts, for his ears were ever open to the voice of war and his country's need.

The American Congress having determined to raise an army, the business of recruiting was extended to that part of the country, where young Hardin resided in 1776 and in which he was so actively engaged, that his success enabled him to join the army with the command of a second Lieutenant. He was afterwards attached to Morgan's Rifle Corps; which was generally upon the lines, and in which he served, until his resignation of a first Lieutenant's commission in December, 1779. In the meantime he acquired and maintained a high place in the confidence and esteem of General Daniel Morgan, by whom he was often selected for enterprise of peril, which required discretion and integrity combined, to insure success.

While with the northern army he was sent on a reconnoitering excursion, with orders to take a prisoner for the purpose of gaining information. Marching silently in advance of his party, on reaching the top of an abrupt hill, he met two or three British soldiers and a Mohawk Indian. The moment was both critical and awful. Hardin felt no hesitation—he instantly presented his rifle and ordered them to surrender. The British immediately threw down their arms—the Indian clubbed his gun—they stood while Hardin continued to advance on them, but none of Hardin's men came up and conjecturing that he would want assistance, he turned his head a little as he called to his men to come on. The Indian seeing his head averted, reversed his gun with a rapid motion in order to shoot Hardin. But Hardin hearing the click of the gunlock and catching the gleam reflected from the polished weapon, and knew his danger. But Hardin was not a man to be surprised he brought his rifle to a level, and without bringing it to his face, (as the time occupied by the motion would have cost him his life) fired and killed the Indian, but as he fell he also fired and the powder burnt the victor, the ball passing through his hair. The presence of mind displayed by Hardin, exhibited a combination of circumstance—with what facility, precision, fortitude, self-possession—a happy association of intellect and dexterity proved his superiority and saved his life.

The rest of the party made no resistance, but were marched to camp. Hardin received the thanks of General Gates.

At another time when the British held Philadelphia and General Washington was endeavoring to circumscribe them into as narrow bounds as possible, Hardin being on the line with a lieutenant's command, with order to pick up stragglers, received information that some Tories from the back counties were driving several teams loaded with provisions for the British, and Hardin being officer of the day, and charged with the duty of getting supplies, determined at all hazards to capture two wagons that had managed to pass the guards. He jumped upon a horse, bareback, armed with a rifle and tomahawk—pursued and overtook the wagons. Passing to the lead horse of the foremost team, tomahawked the horse on the head—he fell and that stopped the team.

The owner of the team, a rich old farmer Tory presented his gun out of the wagon at Hardin. But he, with his usual foresight and clarity of ac-

tion, got the first fire and killed the poor old sinner, and then turned the wagons and drove them into the American camp, and this overhauling happened in sight of the enemies' outposts.

Before he left the army he was offered a Major's commission in a regiment, which he declined, thinking he could do more good where he was. Shortly after the time of the enlisted men under him expired, and he did not care to take command of others, and his then limited estate requiring his personal attention, he resigned and returned to George's creek in 1779.

CHAPTER XXXIII.

After retiring from the army he had taken measures to secure lands in Kentucky. It appears that as early as 1780, he entered lands for himself and others on Treasury warrants, in 1781, he sent a young brother to have his entries surveyed, with a view to early patents, and hearing of Indian troubles in Kentucky, he became apprehensive that the surveying would be suspended, he came himself, and gave it that prudent attention necessary to avoid future litigation.

In April, 1786, having a wife and children he removed them from Monongahela to Pleasant Run, in Nelson county; afterwards Washington county, Ky.

In the same year he volunteered under General Clark for the Wabash expedition, and was appointed quartermaster—without funds—nevertheless, it was evidence of the good repute in which he was held.

There in 1787 and 1788 an abatement in Indian hostilities, at least, no formidable invasion took place which called for retaliation. In 1789, among other depredations, a considerable party of Indians stole the horses of Mr. Hardin (then styled Major) and those of his neighbors, without as much as leaving him one for the plough; the marauders were pursued, but escaped by crossing the Ohio.

In the course of the year he was appointed County Lieutenant, with the rank of Colonel; which gave him the command of the militia of the county. As the summer advanced he determined to cross the Ohio with a strong party of his militia, and scour the country for some miles out; in order that if there were any camps of Indians in that quarter to break them up.

Accordingly he made his desire of assembling volunteers known, and was joined at that place of rendezvous

by two hundred mounted men ready for the enterprise. With these he proceeded across the river, and on one of the branches of the Wabash, fell on a camp of about thirty Shawanees, whom he attacked and defeated, killing nine red skins and taking two prisoners. Two of his own party were wounded—none killed or taken. From these Indians, Col. Hardin recovered two of the horses and some colts, which had been stolen in the spring of the year. And it is worthy of note that no more horses were taken from that neighborhood during the residue of the war.

There was no expedition into the Indian country after he settled in Kentucky, that he was not on, except that of General St. Clair. It was his intention to have been on that disastrous expedition but was prevented by accidentally wounding himself, with a carpenter's adze which he occasionally used. This wound produced a serious lameness, from which he recovered.

Thus far in tracing the life and scenes of Col. Hardin, I have followed the account given of him in Marshall's History of Kentucky—2d vol. from page 42 to 50, frequently copying the very words of the Historian, and regret that the account is so meager and falls so far short of doing justice to a distinguished man, in his military performances from 1779 to 1792. But the last and most important and perilous undertaking of his life, remains to be told.

Kentucky up to 1792 was a county of the district of Old Virginia! but on the first day of June, 1792, she was erected into a free and independent State. But she was born in troublesome times—Indians wars prevailed, and then depredations were nearly throughout the State. She might have been said to have been born in fires and matured in the flames.

This state of things greatly retarded the growth and prosperity of the State, and the enemy was valiant but poor, and a thousand victories over them would not have been worth a cent pecuniarily.

General Whitaker, then commanding the United States troops at Fort Washington, solicited Col. Hardin to bear a flag to the hostile Indians with overtures of peace, not that any doubt existed about finally subduing them, but the prosperity of the newly settled country demanded peace.

General Whitaker knew Col. Hardin, and that he possessed those rare qualifications necessary for such an enterprise—coolness, self-possession, bravery, and good practical common sense, and a knowledge of Indian habits,—made Col. Hardin the man selected. General Whitaker had been retired from Kentucky. But Mr. Marshall, the Historian suggests that another reason might have prompted General Wilkerson to make this

choice, he was an ambitious man, a little jealous of the well-earned fame of Col. Hardin, and probably thought it would be more convenient to him to have such a rival out of the way, but charity towards the General would incline us to believe that he was actuated by proper impulses; however, knowing it to be a perilous and important undertaking, he was earnest in his persuasion, not only with Col. Hardin, but also with Major Trunan, an officer of great merit under the General's command, and with whom he was known to be at variance, to undertake a like commission in the same season to another section of hostile Indians. They were both known to be men of firmness of character and ready, self-devotion to dangerous enterprises, when their country called—they were both called, and both cut off. Here I will quote from Marshall's history verbatim, concerning 2d paragraph on page 42, and ending on page 44, 2d vol:

"Nor will the General's moral character suffer any diminution of value in the estimation of those who knew him, and duly appreciated it, but the insinuation as to his motives for employing Col. Hardin. For notwithstanding he was in the regular army, and had ostensibly withdrawn from Kentucky, yet was he still connected with men here, in the Spanish intrigue—between whom and himself, there was a reciprocity of expectation, that in the event of things taking the turn which they desired to give them, that Hardin and himself might be something more than rivals for fame. They might be antagonists in the field. Since Wilkerson could not have formed the hope of seducing his fidelity, it is therefore possible that a death which gave great pain to the people in general, might have had a very different effect on the sensibility of Wilkerson.

The particular manner of that death, has not been ascertained with any certainty of detail, even the account given by report is not very circumstantial. What has been learned, is, that Col. Hardin attended by his interpreter, on his route towards the Miami villages, arrived at an Indian camp, about a day's journey from where Fort Defiance was afterwards built by General Wayne, and nearly the same distance from a town inhabited by Shawanees and Delawares—that he was well received by the Indians in camp, but had not been long there before five Delawares came in from the town. Upon learning o

which, the Colonel proposed to them to go with him, the same evening to the place. They however, refused to go back that day, but seemed peaceably disposed—and concluded to camp with the Indians the ensuing

night, which he did, without molestation.

In the morning, however, without provocation or particular reason, a parcel of them shot him to death. If with any peculiar circumstances of barbarity is not known. They seized his horse, gun and saddle-bags—expecting no doubt, in addition to the two former, that they would find money and presents in the latter. His companion they made a prisoner, and taking him with them, on the road to Sandusky, murdered him by the way.

It has been further said, that when the news was carried to the town "that a white man with peace talk had been killed at the camp" that it excited a great ferment, and that the murderers had been much censured, which is probably true. For perhaps there is no condition of the human race, when exempt from the passion of revenge, or the allurements of plunder, so ignorant, or depraved, as not to cherish sentiments of respect for the harbinger of peace. Of Col. Hardin they had no personal knowledge; although they very likely had heard of him. Yet if they had known him terrible in battle, they also should have remembered him magnanimous in victory, and kind and hospitable in peace. Never taking life when he could make a prisoner—and having at that time two in his household who for several years had been treated as members of his family; with the intention of restoring them to their nation on the return of peace; and which was accordingly done by order of his widow. Col. Hardin in the thirtieth year of his age, in the prime of life, of much usefulness, and after he had by a series of exertions, progressively, unfolded many virtuous traits of character. It was by these he had gained his standing in society. One so interwoven with the respect and affection of countrymen, that combined with his active disposition, and experience, could have pointed him out and enabled him, had he lived, to have rendered important service of the highest order.

In corroboration with these suggestions it was stated that while he was out, and before his death was known, upon Kentucky's becoming a State he was appointed a justice of the Quarter Sessions in Washington county, where he had resided, and General of the First Brigade of Kentucky Militia.

To this eminence was he raised for services rendered, and not by address and intrigue—for never was man who loved honorable distinction farther from the arts of popularity or office hunting."

TO BE CONTINUED.

HISTORY OF ELIZABETHTOWN

HARDIN COUNTY

BY HON. SAMUEL HAYCRAFT.

WRITTEN IN 1869

CHAPTER XXXV!!!

In my last number I promised to give the sketch of the Hardin family is written by the venerable Mark Hardin, of Shelbyville, Ky., and regarded it as a particular privilege to be allowed to do so—from his own manuscript, verbatim, to-wit:

THE HARDIN FAMILY.

Tradition has it, that after the massacre of the Bartholamews, three brothers of the name; (being Huguenots) left France and came to the Colony of Virginia; one went to South Carolina. One of the descendants of one of these brothers, Martin Hardin, as early as about 1765, removed from Farquier county, Virginia, to George's creek, Monongahela. The family register, brought by my father John Hardin, to Kentucky in 1786, shows as follows:

Mary Hardin, daughter of Martin and Lydia, his wife, was born October ye 4th, 1741.

Sarah Hardin was born March ye 10th 1743.

Lydia Hardin was born April ye 10th, 1748.

Mark Hardin was born December ye 1st, 1750

John Hardin was born October ye 1st, 1753.

Martin Hardin was born Febr'y, ye 1st, 1757.

Rosanna Hardin was born March ye 9th, 1760.

These seven children, Virginians by birth, all removed to Kentucky; the last of these, Martin, in 1787, and all but Rosanna settled in the same neighborhood. John Hardin settled on Pleasant Run, a branch of the Beech Fork, in April 1786, about then nearly east of what is now Springfield town. From his residence a line west will take us to Springfield, about three miles. From his residence, a line inclining to south-west, about half a mile, Martin Hardin settled, same course, about three miles, Sarah Hardin settled; same course, about three miles further, Lydia Wickliffe settled; same course, four miles further, Mark Hardin settled. These five families settled on their own land; never removed or sold, but left them to their heirs, their dwellings, not one of them ever lost an acre of their land

This line of ten miles, reaching diagonally between Springfield and Lebanon, was occupied by the same Hardin family for more than sixty years. Martin Hardin, the youngest of them died some twenty years since, in the ninety-second year of his age.

When I last visited him, and we had talked over many of my boyhood and his manhood experiences in life, he said to me, "Mark, I am now in the 92d year of my age. I suppose I am the oldest living man of the tribe, and I never knew a Hardin that was a liar, I never knew a Hardin that was a thief, and never knew a Hardin that was a coward, and your father was the noblest of them all. The tears then run down his cheeks as they had done for fifty previous years whenever he spoke of his brother John after he was killed by the Indians in 1792

An entire family, there holding their possessions, and rearing families, will, of necessity, make an impression in the surrounding community.

Beginning with the north-eastern line of those families, Martin D. Hardin, son of John, before he was twenty years of age, having studied law with the late Colonel George Nichols, obtained his license and became a practicing lawyer in Richmond, Ky, afterward returned to Frankfort, and took rank with the first lawyers in Kentucky.

Next on this line is Ben Hardin, son of Sarah, he commenced reading law with his cousin, Martin D. Hardin, in Richmond, and returned to Washington to finish his studies.

Next in this line is Robert Wickliffe, son of Lydia, he also studied under Col Nicholas at Lexington at the same time that Martin D. Hardin finished his studies. Charles A. Wickliffe, son of Lydia, also studied law whilst living in Washington City. These four men each, in their day, stood as prominent lawyers; known and read of all men in their day, they have been awarded, as they have severally passed among the first honors offered to distinguished men of worth. Others of this family of less notoriety, many of them, have filled their stations in life with fidelity and prosperity.

I have but spoken of the immediate descendants of this family, of the male members, like Job's messenger, I only am left to make this note of events. Of the females, there is

perhaps Susan, Mary Lettitia, (Mrs. Buford and Mrs. Realy) daughters of Mark Hardin, living

Of the younger brood I can say, whether of the name of Hardin, or of any other name, I know they are men, feel that they are men amongst

the wisest and amongst the best.

It will suit here to state that a few years since my grand-daughter, Mrs. Bernandy, in St. Louis met with Bishop Spalding, who was raised near Lebanon, Ky., hearing that she was of this family, remarked, that the Hardins were strong-minded but obstinate. Just let me here ask the question: If in the providence of God, I have been given a strong mind to discern the truth, and integrity of purpose to maintain the right, may I not proudly wear the epithet of obstinacy. Bunyan would call it, 'Valiant for the truth.' Thus viewed, we accept the soft impeachment as bringing with it no reproach. And, before I leave this branch of the subject, let me say to all of our lineage, whether a Hardin a Wickliffe, a Helm, a McHenry, a Harwood, a Cofer, or any other name, remember what our old uncle Martin Hardin has said of them; and, remember, also, that had it not been for their obstinate integrity of purpose to maintain the right; that had it not been for the massacre of St. Bartholomew, we, the Hardin family, might now have been Frenchmen instead of Americans.'

In the year 1786, then a boy of four years of age I was landed in the woods near a spring, some three miles east of where Springfield was afterward built; it was then the District of Kentucky, part of Virginia. Since then the Constitution of the United States was adopted, and has since been accounted of on binding force. Since then the constitution of the Presbyterian church has been adopted and violated. I had in early manhood sworn to support the one, and in mature middle age vowed allegiance to the other. I have in good faith endeavored to fulfill my obligations to each of them as God has given me judgment and strength to do so. And now, in my 88th year, to each one of you, separately, and to all of us, collectively, remember that each of us owe it to ourselves, and to each other, to maintain the character that has been transmitted to us. When there is a question of right, let us be obstinate in upholding the truth and sternly prove our lineage true.

Dote at Shelbyville, Kentucky, this 7th day of December, 1869.

MARK HARDIN.

To the foregoing my venerable friend has added a kind of family record, and, although it may involve a little repetition, I have concluded to insert it entire

Mary Hardin married Robert Wickliffe, and after his death married William Robertson, and died without children, at an advanced age. Sarah Hardin married her cousin Ben Hardin; had four daughters and three sons; died in her 85th or 86th year. Ben Hardin of Bardstown, was her second son, born in 1784.

Lydia Hardin married Charles Wickliffe; had four sons and five daughters, Charles Anderson, (Wickliffe) her youngest child, was not torn in Bardstown, but in a cabin on Sulpher Run, a branch of Cartright creek, about five or ten miles nearly southwest from where Springfield now stands. At the time of his birth, June 8th, 1788, Springfield was then a word, not a stick cut from it. In his infancy he was christened by the Rev. Bishop Asbury. His mother died at an advanced age.

Mark Hardin married Susannah Stall, of Hagerstown, Maryland; she had eight sons and three daughters; he died in his 86th year.

John Hardin married Jane Davis, she had four daughters and three sons; the eldest son, Martin D. Hardin, late of Frankfort, Ky.

John Hardin was killed by the Indians in his 39th year, in the now State of Ohio, in 1792, when proceeding to their towns with a flag from Gen. Washington, President of the United States, with terms of a treaty for peace.

Sarah Hardin's children—Celly Tobin, Sally Tobin, Rosanna McElroy, Molly Barrett, Ben Hardin and Warren Hardin.

Lydia Hardin Wickliffe's children—Sally Ewing, Mollie Caldwell, Nancy Ray, Rosanna Gibbs, Elizabeth Fisher (then Anderson), Robert Wickliffe, Nathaniel Wickliffe, Martin Wickliffe, Charles Anderson Wickliffe.

Mark Hardin's children—Maxwell, John, Daniel Stull, Mark Davis, Otto, William, Lewis, Sally Chinn, Letitia Buford, Susan, Mary Railey.

John Hardin's children—Sally McHenry, Mary Estill, Rosanna Feld,—Lydia died in infancy; Martin D. Hardin, Mark Hardin, Davis Hardin.

Martin Hardin's children—Martin Hardin, John Hardin, Sally Torrence, Lydia Yeager,

Rosanna McMahan's children—Rosanna Roberts; two names not remembered; Richard, Martin H., William and John.

Martin Hardin married Letitia Stull, of Hagerstown, and he had two

There are numerous other Hardins in Kentucky, and some who figured in Indian times, but I have not been so fortunate in obtaining their lineage as in the case of Martin Hardin, senior of all.

(TO BE CONTINUED)

sons, Martin and John, and daughters, Sally and Lydia; he also, after the death of his first wife, married the widow of David Merriwether; they had one daughter; after her death he married the widow Truman. He died in his 92d year.

Rosanna Hardin married John McMahan; had four sons and four daughters, and died about the year 1791. Here ends my remarks about the Hardin family at present, having only brought down the line of a single original one, Martin Hardin of George's creek, Pa.

Nelson in the Legislature of Kentucky.

On the 14th day of June 1819, he was commissioned Judge of the Court of Appeals, which high position he resigned about one year after his appointment.

In consequence of the omission of Virginia or the General Government to have the State of Kentucky surveyed and laid off into sections, great difficulties arose about land titles. Every man holding a land warrant located it where he pleased, and the steps were entry, survey and patent, and from the vagueness of entries, or the recklessness of after locators, it often happened that the same ground was covered three or four deep with different claims. And the courts in settling who had the superior claim, had first to consider the priority and speciality of the entry, and to decide whether it was so descriptive, and special as to warn other locators to keep off the already appropriated ground.

Sometimes, indeed, very often, a man holding under an honest patent would settle down and improve, vainly indulging the hope that he had a home for life. Then stepped in an other claimant with an older patent and ousted him out of house and home. In order to protect honest settlers under title, the State of Kentucky, in the year 1797, and in January, 1812,

5-8-6

enacted those laws for protection of actual settlers known as the "Occupying Claimant Laws."

In the celebrated case of Green & Biddle the United States Court decided that those laws were unconstitutional and contrary to the compact between Virginia and Kentucky, the compact forming part of the constitution.

In the spirit of compromise the States of Kentucky and Virginia agreed to appoint a Board of Commissioners to meet in convention and settle the difficulties growing out of the compact. Kentucky appointed Jacob Burnett, of Ohio, and Hugh L. White, of Tennessee, as their delegates in the convention, and also appointed the Hon. Henry Clay and John Rowan as attorneys to appear before the Commissioners, with powers to supply a vacancy in case either should decline acting. They were also to appear before the Supreme Court and endeavor to obtain a new hearing in case of Green & Biddle; this was done in the year 1822.

It turned out that the Superior Court refused even to hear the petition read in open court. The Board of Commissioners failed to meet on account of disagreement in the Virginia Senate.

— Mr. Clay and Mr. Rowan made a joint report to Governor Adair.

Mr. Rowan made a separate report, all of which with the petition for rehearing was reported by the Governor to the Legislature. See Senate Journal, 1823, commencing on page 30.

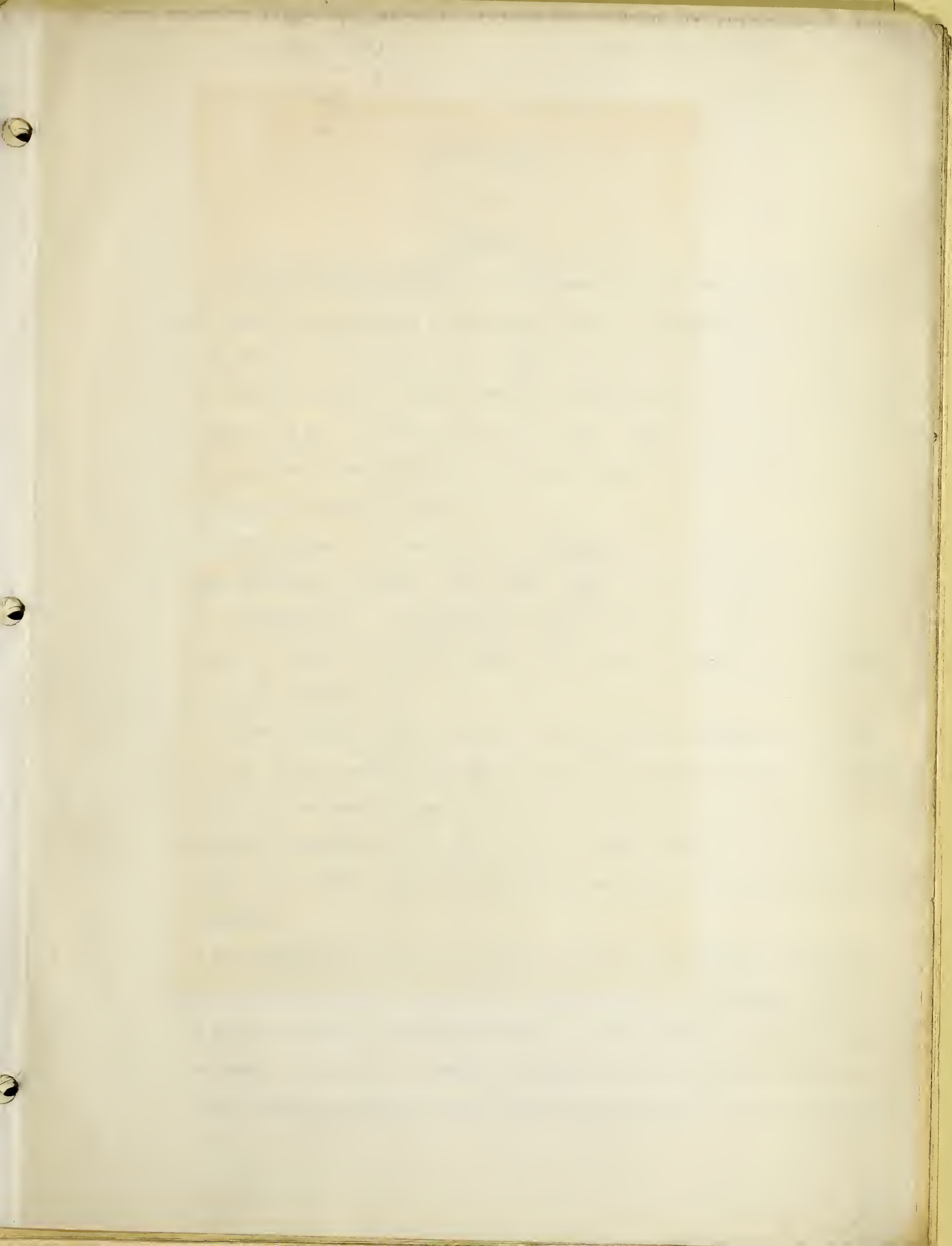
In Mr. Rowan's report he sets out the fact that the Supreme Court consisted of seven Judges, that only four sat in the case, and that three Judges decided the case of Green & Biddle, the fourth dissenting--and thus a minority of the Supreme Court overthrew the laws of Kentucky, and that in a fictitious case in which one of the parties had no interest--and had Bret Harte been their Secretary a portion of their report about these Judges would have read, that although

"They smiled as they sat on the bench
With the smile that was child like and bland
Yet for ways that were dark,
And tricks that were vain,
Those unfeeling Judges were peculiar,
Which the same we are free to maintain,"

In Mr. Rowan's report it will be found that he manufactured a new word which was adapted as expressive of the idea he entertained. He says that the Supreme Court decided that our law was "impactional," that is, contrary to the compact.

And Governor Adair in his message to the Senate including

the reports of Messrs. Clay and Rowan, gave as his opinion that our law was "compactational"--thereby making another word--to convey the opinion that our law was in accordance with the compact with Virginia.



CHAPTER XXV.

TAILORS.

I am absolutely afraid to commence upon them, they have made up nearly an army and I have no hope of remembering them all or the half of them, and if I should fail to fill up the list, some of them or some of their grand children might want to stick their bodkin in me, or what might be worse, treat me to their iron goose. It is almost as dangerous to touch upon the dead as upon the living,--a case in point:

A clergyman in a sermon took occasion to speak of a man who had recently departed this life, and he attributed his death to intemperance. The next day the relations of the deceased had him arrested for slander, and he was mulched into a fine of five dollars.

A few Sundays after the same preacher had occasion to refer to the flood, and the long and tedious voyage of Noah in the ark, and when released from it he cultivated grapes and drank the wine, and remarked that he would say that Noah got drunk, but was afraid that some of his relations might prosecute him for slander.

Now, although tailors occupy a position at their work that is not calculated to give them much muscle or strength, yet I would hesitate sometime before I would attack nine of them at once. They are a useful fraternity--can manage to make us comfortable coverings, and indeed without the aid of a skillful

75-1

tailor, no man feels himself prepared to go into decent company. That trade existed long before tanners or hatters. The first tailor and tailoress we have any historical account of was Adam and Eve. Their clothes was fig leaves, what kind of thread they used is not certain. History is at fault upon that point. It may have been thorns, but the Bible says they sewed fig leaves together, and that is sufficient for our purpose. The trade was improved upon and runs parallel with the history of the world. In the time of an ancient and powerful king his wife and daughters wove and spun fine purple and made his military robe.

It is likely that the trade was followed mostly by females, as in the old English forms, they were called spinners--and in the early English history, when the Lords of the land came to London to set in Parliament, they brought their wives behind them on the crooper of their saddle. They were then styled Dames. But since stage coaches were established through great opposition, cabs, carriages and gigs, and ending in railroad cars.

It was then changed, and it was, "My Lord and My Lady--or most noble Duke and her Grace." London tailors became famous for good substantial tailoring, and France became world renowned

25-2

for fashionable tailors, and even in good old merry England, the great eating nation of beefsteak and plumb pudding, when a court dress was wanting a French tailor was employed. The tailor must not only be a Frenchman, but must live in Paris--that city is sometimes dominated the world's dressing room.

I have some where a fabulous account of a cat who traversed the world and when passing through France his whiskers assumed a black color.

I must apologize for so long a preface to tailoring and delay taking them up in earnest until my next chapter.

CHAPTER XXXIV.

Col. John Hardin was not actually a citizen of Elizabethtown, or its immediate vicinity, yet as he lost his valuable life in a perilous service for his country, and in which same dangerous service one of ^{our} old distinguished citizens (Christopher Miller) bore a part, I think it proper to introduce that matter by giving some account of Col. John Hardin; and although the name of Col. John Hardin has been a household word with me from my earliest recollections, and the fact that he had risked and lost his life for his country, yet the impressions upon my mind were of a vague character; I am, therefore, indebted to information derived from Marshall's History of Kentucky, and to a son of the Col., still living, the venerable Mark Hardin, of Shelbyville, Ky., now in his eighty-eighth or eighty-ninth year, who, himself, is a remarkable man, writing and reading without spectacles.

Col. John Hardin was born in Fauquier county, Virginia, on the 1st day of October, 1753. His parents were poor people, who obtained an honest living by their labor. Martin Hardin, the father, removed to George's creek, of Monongohala, and when his son John was about twelve years of age. He had already learned the use of the rifle and delighted in hunting deer.

34-1

The new settlement was quite a frontier; old Mr. Hardin had thought it in Virginia, but it turned out when the line was run that it was in Pennsylvania. It gave the old gentleman some uneasiness, but the youth said, "he did not care; he would be a Virginian yet."

Hunting in this new situation was even a necessary occupation. It was not long before the Indian war broke out, and self defence and the procuring of food were two sufficient reasons for carrying the rifle.

Young Hardin finding in these reasons free scope for the exercise for his active, enterprising disposition, became a hunter; and not being recalled to any literary pursuit, for there was no school, hunting became his amusement and delight. With his rifle he traversed the valley, or crossed the hills, or climbed the mountains, in search of the deer, the bear, or the elk, insensible of fatigue, and ruminating on the various modes of detecting their feeding, picking or hiding places, until he [became one of the most expert of the craft. The rapidity and exactness with which he pointed his rifle gave to his shot whatever fell beneath his sight; and such was his visual ray, that nothing moving within its compass could escape its glance. A still higher gratification and one which gave a zest to all besides, was

34-2
70

the service which he rendered two or three families of friends
whom he supplied with meat, by means of his gun.

CHAPTER XXXV.

In the spring of the year, 1774, rendered momorable in Virginia by the expedition of Governor Dunmore against the Indians then at war, young Hardin, not then twenty years of age, was appointed an ensign in a militia company. In the August ensuing he volunteered under Capt. Zach Morgan; had an action with a party of Indians, in which he was wounded while on one knee, the better to support his rifle in aiming it against the enemy. The bullet struck his thigh on the outer side, ranged up it about seven inches, and lodged near the groin, whence it was never extracted. The enemy were beaten and fled. Thus early was he iniated into the mysteries of Indian warfare.

Before Ensign Hardin had recovered from his wound or dispensed with his crutches, he joined Dunmore on his march to the Indian towns. In these transations it is to be seen the spirit which prompts to the exercise of hunting, and the enterprise of war; the spirit which elevates men into heroes, and devotes them to their species and to fame.

Soon after the peace that ensued, Hardin turned his attention towards Kentucky as to a theatre for new adventures and actually prepared for the journey with Col. Crawford and others, but this was declined, probably on account of the increasing rumors

of war on the Atlantic coasts, for his ears were ever open to the voice of war and his country's need.

The American Congress having determined to raise an army, the business recruiting was extended to that part of the country, where young Hardin resided in 1776 and in which he was so actively engaged, that his success enabled him to join the army with the command of a second Lieutenant. He was afterwards attached to Morgan's Rifle Corps; which was generally upon the lines, and in which he served, until his resignation of a first Lieutenant's commission in December, 1779. In the meantime he acquired and maintained a high place in the confidence and esteem of General Daniel Morgan, by whom he was often selected for enterprise of peril, which required discretion and integrity combined, to insure success.

While with the northern army he was sent on a reconnoitering excursion, with orders to take a prisoner for the purpose of gaining information. Marching silently in advance of his party, on reaching the top of an abrupt hill, he met two or three British soldiers and a Mohawk Indian. The moment was both critical and awful. Hardin felt no hesitation--he instantly presented

his rifle and ordered them to surrender. The British immediately threw down their arms--the Indians clubbed his gun--they stood while Hardin continued to advance on them, but none of Hardin's men came up and conjecturing that he would want assistance, he turned his head a little as he called to his men to come on. The Indians seeing his head averted, reversed his gun with a rapid motion in order to shoot Hardin. But Hardin hearing the click of the gun lock and catching the gleam reflected from the polished weapon, and knew his danger. But Hardin was not a man to be surprised, he brought his rifle to a level, and without bringing it to his face (as the time occupied by the motion would have cost him his life) fired and killed the Indian, but as he fell he also fired and the powder burnt the victor, the ball passing through his hair. The presence of mind displayed by Hardin, exhibited a combination of circumstances--with what facility, precision, fortitude, self-possession--a happy association of intellect and dexterity proved his superiority and saved his life.

The rest of the party made no resistance, but were marched to camp. Hardin received the thanks of General Gates.

At another time when the British held Philadelphia and General Washington was endeavoring to circumscribe them into as narrow bounds as possible, Hardin being on the line with a lieutenant's command, with order to pick up ^rstanglers, received information that some Tories from the back counties were driving several teams loaded ^{with} provisions for the British, and Hardin being officer of the day, and charged with the duty of getting supplies, determined at all hazards to capture two wagons that had managed to pass the guards. He jumped upon a horse, bareback, armed with a rifle and tomahawks--pursued and overtook the wagons. Passing to the lead horse of the foremost team, tomahawked the horse on the head--he fell and that stopped the team. The owner of the team, a rich old farmer Tory presented his gun out of the wagon at Hardin. But he with his usual foresight and celerity of action, got the first fire and killed the poor old sinner, and then turned the wagons and drove them into the American camp, and this overhauling happened in sight of the enemies outposts.

Before he left the army he was offered a Major's commission in a regiment, which he declined, thinking he could do more good where he was.

Shortly after the time the enlisted men under him expired, and he did not care to take command of others, and then his limited estate requiring his personal attention, he resigned and returned to George's creek in 1779.

CHAPTER XXXVI.

After retiring from the army he had taken measures to secure lands in Kentucky. It appears that as early as 1780, he entered lands for himself and others on Treasury warrants, in 1781 he sent a young brother to have his entries surveyed, with a view to early patents, and hearing of Indian troubles in Kentucky, he became apprehensive that the surveying would be suspended, he came himself, and gave it that prudent attention necessary to avoid future litigation.

In April, 1786, having a wife and children he removed them from Monongohala to Pleasant Run, in Nelson county; afterwards Washington county, Ky.

In the same year he volunteered under General Clark for the Wabash expedition, and was appointed quartermaster--without funds--nevertheless, it was evidence of the good repute in which he was held.

There in 1787 and 1788 an abatement in Indian hostilities, at least no formidable invasion took place which called for retaliation. In 1789, among other depredations, a considerable party of Indians stole the horses of Mr. Hardin (then styled Major) and those of his neighbors, without as much as leaving him one for the plough.

The marauders were pursued, but escaped by crossing the Ohio.

In the course of the year he was appointed County Lieutenant, with the rank of Colonel; which gave him the command of the militia of the county.

As the summer advanced he determined to cross the Ohio with a strong party of his militia, and scour the country for some miles out; in order that if there were any camps of Indians in that quarter to break them up.

Accordingly he made his desire of assembling volunteers known, and was joined at that place of rendezvous by two hundred mounted men ready for the enterprise. With these he proceeded across the river, and on one of the branches of the Wabash, fell on a camp of about thirty Shawanees, whom he attacked and defeated, killing nine red skins and taking two prisoners. Two of his own party were wounded--none killed or taken.

From these Indians Col. Hardin recovered two of the horses and some colts which had been stolen in the spring of the year. And it is worthy of note that no more horses were taken from neighborhood during the residue of the war.

There was no expedition into the Indian country after he settled in Kentucky, that he was not on, except that of General

St. Clair. It was his intention to have been on that disastrous expedition but was prevented by accidentally wounding himself, with a carpenter's adze which he occasionally used. This wound produced a serious lameness, from which he recovered.

Thus far in tracing the life and scenes of Col. Hardin, I have followed the account given of him in Marshall's History of Kentucky--2nd volume from page 42 to 50, frequently copying the very words of the Historian, and regret that the account is so meager and falls so far short of doing justice to a distinguished man in his military performances from 1779 to 1792. But the last and most important and perilous undertaking of his life remains to be told.

Kentucky up to 1792 was a county of the district of Old Virginia! but on the first day of June, 1792, she was erected into a free and independent State. But she was born in troublesome times--Indian wars prevailed, and then depredations were nearly throughout the State. She might have been said to have been born in fires and matured in the flames.

This state of things greatly retarded the growth and prosperity of the State, and the enemy was valiant but poor, and a thousand victories over them would not have been worth a cent

pecuniarily.

General Whitaker, then commanding the United States troops at Fort Washington, solicited Col. Hardin to bear a flag to the hostile Indians with overtures of peace, not that any doubt existed about finally subduing them, but the prosperity of the newly settled country demanded peace.

General Whitaker knew Col. Hardin, and that he possessed those rare qualifications necessary for such an enterprise--coolness, self-possession, bravery, and good practical common sense, and a knowledge of Indian habits,--made Col. Hardin the man wanted. General Wilkerson had been retired from Kentucky, but Mr. Marshall, the Historian, suggested that another reason might have prompted General Wilkerson to make this choice, he was an ambitious man, a little jealous of the well-earned fame of Col. Hardin, and probably thinking it would be more convenient to him to have such a rival out of the way, but charity towards the General would incline us to believe that he ^{was} actuated by proper impulses; however, knowing it to be a perilous and important undertaking, he was earnest in his persuasion, not only with Col. Hardin, but also with Major Trunan, an officer of great merit under the General's command, and with whom he was known

36-1

to be at variance, to undertake a like commission in the same season in another section of hostile Indians. They were both known to be men of firmness of character and ready, self-devotion to dangerous enterprises, when their country called-- they were both called, and both cut off. Here I will quote from Marshall's history verbatim, concerning 2nd paragraph on page 42, and ending on page 44, 2nd vol:

"Nor will the General's moral character suffer any diminution of value in the estimation of those who knew him, and duly appreciated it, but the insinuation as to his motives for employing Col. Hardin. For notwithstanding he was in the regular army, and ostensibly withdrawn from Kentucky, yet he was still connected with men here, in the Spanish intrigues--between whom and himself, there was a reciprocity of expectation, that in the event of things taking the turn which they desired to give them, that Hardin and himself might be something more than rivals for fame. They might be antagonists in the field. Since Wilkerson could not have formed the hope of seducing his fidelity, it is therefore possible that a death which gave great pain to the people in general, might have had a very different effect on the sensibility of Wilkerson.

36-5

The particular manner of that death has not been ascertained with any certainty of detail, even the account given by report is not very circumstantial. What has been learned, is, that Col. Hardin attended by his interpreter, on his route towards the Miami villages, arrived at an Indian camp, about a day's journey from where Fort Defiance was afterwards built by General Wayne, and nearly the same distance from a town inhabited by Shawanees and Delawares--that he was well received by the Indians in camp, but had not been long there before five Delawares came in from the town. Upon learning which, the Colonel proposed to them to go with him, the same evening to the place. They however, refused to go back that day, but seemed peaceably disposed--and concluded to camp with the Indians the ensuing night, which he did, without molestation.

In the morning, however, without provocation or particular reason, a parcel of them shot him to death. If with any peculiar circumstances of barbarity is not known. They seized his horse, gun and saddle-bags--expecting no doubt, in addition to the two former, that they would find money and presents in the latter. His companion they made a prisoner, and taking him with them, on the road to Sandusky, murdered him by the way.

36-5

It has been further said, that when the news was carried to the town "that a white man with peace talk had been killed at the camp" that it excited a great ferment, and that the murderers had been much censured, which is probably true. For perhaps there is no condition of the human race, when exempt from the passion of revenge, or the allurements of plunder, so ignorant, or depraved, as not to cherish sentiments of respect for the harbinger of peace. Of Col. Hardin they had no personal knowledge; although they very likely had heard of him. Yet if they had known him terrible in battle, they also should have remembered him magnanimous in victory, and kind and hospitable in peace. Never taking life when he ^{could} make a prisoner--and having at that time two in his household who for several years had been treated as members of his family; with the intention of restoring them to their nation on the return of peace; and which was accordingly done by order of his widow. Col. Hardin in the thirty-ninth year of his age, in the prime of life, of much usefulness, and after he had by a series of exertions, progressively, unfolded many virtuous traits of character. It was by these he had gained his standing in society. One so interwoven with the respect and affection of countrymen, that combined with his active disposition

copy

and experience, could have pointed him out and enabled him, had he lived, to have rendered important service of the highest order.

In corroboration with these suggestions it was stated that while he was out, and before his death was known, upon Kentucky's becoming a State he was appointed a Justice of the Quarter Session in Washington county, where he had resided, and General of the First Brigade of Kentucky Militia.

To this eminence was he raised for services rendered, and not by address and intrigue--for never was man who loved honorable distinction farther from the arts of popularity or office hunting."

CHAPTER XXXVII.

Mark Hardin, the old register, a son of Col. John Hardin, was born on the Monongahela about the year 1782, in Western Pennsylvania, and was removed with the family in 1786 to Pleasant Run, in Nelson, now Washington county. He well remembers the first time he ever ventured out from Pleasant Run in the fall of 1789. He went with his father to Bardstown--his business was to get a bag of flour at Beard's mill, the only one manufacturing flour in all that region, twenty-one or twenty-two miles from home and about one mile from Bardstown, since better known as Federal Hill, the residence of the late Hon. John Rowen, and the circumstances were more deeply impressed on his mind from the fact of his horse becoming alarmed at the rattling of a pot-tramel, threw him and his bag of flour against a dogwood sapling, but without receiving material injury. Nothing occurred with him out of the usual course of boys, working a little and going to school, until the year 1792 when he lost his father, as has been before stated. In the year 1800, he had his leg broken, and did not recover from it until 1802, and has from that time to this day walked on a crutch.

Early in 1803 he went to Frankfort and obtained a situation in the employ of Willis A. Lee, Clerk of the General Court of Kentucky.

Shortly after, Col. John Allen, then a leading lawyer in Kentucky, (who since fell at the River Raisin) wanted a large copy from the office to be used in a suit to be tried in Shelbyville on the next day. Young Mark being apprised of the importance of the matter, yoked into it with a rush, and perhaps accomplished as large a night's work as any clerk in the land could boast, and was particularly gratifying to Col. Allen, who became his fast friend.

During the session of the Legislature 1803, Edmond Thomas, Register of the Land Office died. Col. Allen called on Mark and asked how old he was? he replied 21 years the preceeding March. The Col. then said, "We are about to try to get the Governor to nominate you for the office."

Col. Allen, Hon. John Rowen and Col. Joseph Hamilton Davis, then at Frankfort, were leading lawyers and the most prominent in the State.

They were particularly industrious, and warmly pressed the claim of Mark on the Governor.

The Governor's reply was such as to give serious offense to some of them. Those gentlemen and most of the Senators had been personally acquainted with Col. John Hardin, the father of the applicant, and feeling that they owed a debt of gratitude to the memory of the Colonel, the refusal of the Governor to nominate his son aroused their indignation. The Governor nominated Harry Loveman his Secretary of State. He was promptly rejected by the Senate. He then nominated William Triggs, of Frankfort; he was rejected. Then he nominated Hon. Judge Coleman, of Morgan county; he was also rejected. Then the Governor nominated Willis Green, near Danville, and he was rejected. All of these men were of high standing and qualified for the office. But it was alone for the dead, and a desire to honor his memory that the Senate resisted.

Here came a pause, Col. Allen came to young Hardin and told him that nothing could be done now but to open the way for future success. General John Adair was Speaker of the House of Representatives, then in session, and if the friends could manage to get the Governor to nominate him he would be appointed, and at the end of the Governor's term, he, the General, would slip out of the way. In all this time of trial young Mark was passive;

he approached no one on the subject, and none but Col. Allen approached him. Gen. Adair was nominated and confirmed.

In 1805 the General was elected Senator, and Governor Christopher Greenup nominated Mark Hardin, the subject of this notice, for the office of Register, and he was unanimously confirmed.

He attributed it to the love which the intelligent and prominent men of the State had for his murdered father.

He had the office from 1805 to 1814. He found it a laborious office; very poor pay; and having in August, 1806 married the daughter of Gen. Adair, and having a family to support, he felt himself too poor to live on the salary; and, to use his own language, 'too proud to beg,' and so he resigned in 1814.

He then or shortly after located permanently in ^{the town of} Shelbyville and has for many years been a prominent member and ruling elder in the Presbyterian church, and as such, is widely and favorably known and has attained to the good old age of 88 years. His only living child, now a widow, Mrs. Jane J. Logan now lives with him.

I had the pleasure of the personal acquaintance of his son, Dr. John Hardin, late of Louisville, and under Providence I was indebted to him for relief under a severe affliction.

He was a christian man and gentleman as well as a skillful physician. He died June 10, 1864, age 53 years and 3 months.

Col. John Hardin's eldest daughter married Rev. Barnabas McHenry, a distinguished Methodist divine. From this marriage proceeded John H. McHenry and Martin D. McHenry, both lawyers of distinction. John H. McHenry is the father of several prominent sons; one of them, Col. John McHenry, commanded a regiment in the late war; was in several engagements, and was distinguished for his gallantry at the siege at Fort Donaldson and other places.

There is something remarkable in the Hardin family, so much so, that it is difficult to give a pen portraiture of them. Take them as a class, and as a general thing, there is more shrewdness, common sense and intellect about them, and fewer men of inferior mind or below mediocrity than can be found in any family as numerous as they are, in the State. I never knew one of them that was a flatterer; but were outspoken, flat-footed, matter-of-fact talkers--in so much that they were sometimes offensive to folks of delicate nerves, particularly if they did not wish to face the naked truth. As a people they are rational, kind and hospitable, and would make great sacrifices to do a real favor, when needed, and pride more in

37-5

being esteemed ^{as} honest, truthful gentlemen than the exquisitely polished gentlemen.

With a great portion of the males there is an utter dislike to manual labor; not particularly on account of their blood (which is true, they duly appreciate) but from the fact that they believe that God Almighty has bestowed upon them sufficient to make their living in some other way. Consequently, a majority of that class seek the legal profession as a means of livelihood, and in that line, they are men of eminently industrious habits.

They generally make first rate lawyers, and they have the credit of being as true as steel to their clients; exerting every nerve and calling in question every faculty they possess to gain their point; and, even if necessary, to take a knock down at the bar.

I do not speak thus to disparage any other family of lawyers, for all the good, faithful and eminent lawyers are not of the Hardin family; but to take the Hardins on an average few can cope with them. But when a Hardin goes in for work, he goes it with all his might, and among them may be found some of the most laborious men in the State. To use a common phrase, there are no 'runts' among them, but unless badly crossed they are hale robust men.

37-6

The females are noted for their virtue, and tidiness as house-keepers, and proud of their ancestry; and although acquainted with the family all my life, I do not know a slovenly or lazy woman among them; and it is a rare thing to find one among them who is not intelligent and very often of superior mind.

The old stock of original settlers were generally men of immense frame, and in the course of nature long lived, and of such prominent features, or contour of faces among the men, and some times with the females, as to give unmistakable evidence of the presence of the Hardin blood.

But almost all the old stock are gone, and, in fact, I do not know of but one man living who will do to represent the old pioneers of this family, and that man is the venerable Mark Hardin, of Shelbyville, Kentucky; he is in hailing distance of 90, and reaches back and forward, covering nearly a century. When last I heard from him, he was in an excellent state of preservation, with his mind and memory unimpaired, and as I have before remarked, writes without spectacles, with the good old-fashioned goose quill, and I feel that it is a Providential dispensation that he is left to rescue from oblivion the origin, and partly the history, of the family; and, at my request, he furnished me an account of

them in his own hand writing. In my next number I propose to give an exact copy of it, using his very words and style.

CHAPTER XXXIX.

At a very early date Earnest Miller, a German, emigrated from Virginia and settled in the woods near where Elizabethtown stands; opened a farm and raised a family, the most of whom were born in Virginia; he had six sons, viz: Samuel Miller, Adam Miller, Nicholas Miller, Christopher Miller, Thomas Miller and Lemuel Miller, all of whom are now dead except Lemuel Miller, he, also had several daughters. Nicholas Miller, known as Col. Nick, has been spoken of in the previous part of the history as an active, bold and fearless man--having had frequent desperate conflicts with the Indians, always coming out best; he served long as a Justice of the Peace and once as High Sheriff of the county, and commanded a campaign against the Indians on the Wabash about 1811 or 1812. Samuel Miller, the eldest son, saw some squally times; settled in Nelson, and was for many years a leading man in the body politic and the church. Adam Miller was always a quiet, good man and church member; he was taken prisoner by the Indians and remained in captivity fourteen years. Thomas Miller lived and died peaceable; quiet farmer and good man, and was a deacon of the Baptist church and a faithful member. Christopher Miller, about the year 1780, was taken prisoner by the Shawnee Indians, and was with them fourteen years,

but being an active, sprightly young man, he soon became habituated to the manners and customs and mode of life of the Indians; draped as they did and spoke their language as his native tongue, and by many it was thought doubtful whether he ever would have returned to the whites if he had not been taken prisoner as an Indian; he was in the same tribe with young Tecumseh, and they in their youth were friends and playmates. Miller has told me himself that he has had many a wrestle with Tecumseh.

After the defeat of Gen. St. Clair it let loose the savages upon the Northwestern Territory, and the signal victory they had gained emboldened them very much. Gen. Washington was much distressed in consequence of St. Clair's defeat; it frustrated all his plans for the safety of the thinly settled country in the North-west, and it was determined to have a sufficient army to be placed under the lead of Gen. Anthony Wayne; but about that time there was a faction opposition in Congress, and delayed the campaign for nearly two years. It was in 1794 before Gen. Wayne openly, being joined by Gen. Scott with 1,600 men, commenced operations, by first building several forts--Fort Recovery, Fort Jefferson and Fort Defiance were erected. On the 14th day of August, 1794, Gen. Wayne, having all things in

39-7

readiness to move on the Indians, who had left their settlement and were embodied, intending to give battle, encouraged by their former success, and Wayne having obtained the strong hold of the Indians without the loss of blood, Wayne, under the instruction of Washington, determined to give the enemy a chance for peace before falling upon them. But the great difficulty was to find the right man to carry the flag, and Christopher Miller being lately returned from the Indians and understanding their language, Wayne selected him to go with the flag. Miller knew that he was not in good odor with the Indians, for they regarded him as a deserter having been so long identified with them, and was regarded as an Indian by adoption; this difficulty was urged by Miller to Gen. Wayne. But Wayne told him that he had eight warriors as prisoners, and would hold them as hostages for his safe return and was also assured that he would be well rewarded by the Government; and having furnished Miller with a written speech or peace talk, something in this style: "To the Delawares, Shawnees, Miamis, and Wyandots, and to each and every one of them, and to all other nation of Indians north-west of the Ohio, whom it may concern," said Gen. Wayne: "Brothers be no longer deceived or led astray by false promises and language of the bad white man at the foot of the rapids; they have neither the power nor inclination to protect you. No longer shut your eyes to your true interest and happiness,

nor your ears to this last overture of peace; but in pity to your innocent women and children, come and prevent the further effusion of your blood; let them experience the kindness and friendship of the United States of America, and the inevitable blessings of peace and tranquility." He urged them also, each and every hostile order of Indians, to appoint deputies to assemble, without delay, at the junction of the Anglaize and the foot of the rapids, in order to settle the preliminaries of a lasting peace.

Armed with a flag and this message Miller set out alone on the 14th day of August, 1794, for the Indian camp at the foot of the rapids, arriving at nightfall, but in a few minutes his arrival was known all over the entire camp, and it was announced with such demon-like yells that it could not better be described than by quoting from Sir Walter Scott:

"At once there rose so wild a yell,
Within that dark and narrow dell,
As all the fiends from Heaven that fell
Had pealed the Banner cry of Hell."

Then it was "Kill the runaway! Burn him!"

— Miller knowing the character of Indians, showed no signs of

fear, but in a loud and defiant voice, in their own tongue, told them that he brought a flag of peace, and as for burning him, they had better be a little careful, as the Black Snake, meaning General Wayne, had eight of their warriors in prison, and if he was not returned safely in three days that their eight men would be shot. He was, however, roughly seized and put in a place of confinement for the night, and immediately a pow wow was held in which it was determined that Miller should be burned at the stake in the morning, but Tecumseh, a young Shawnee chief, who was a friend of Miller's got the council together again, and brought to bear all his powers of reason and eloquence to obtain a reversal of their first decision, urging the sanctity and safe guard attached to a flag which was awarded by all nations, and that a violation of the flag on their part, would be opposition to the Great Spirit and turn all the world against them; and, by force of threats, and arguments, they reluctantly receded from their first decision.

They then in council, returned for answer to Gen. Wayne that if he waited where he was for ten days and then send Miller to them, that they would treat with him, but if he advanced they would give him battle. Miller reached Gen. Wayne with the above

answer on the 16th day of August, 1794.

The slow movement of Wayne towards the Miami's village had caused many of the Indians to feel no little distrust as to their ability to defeat the great chief of the Americans who was creeping so cautiously upon their strong hold, and in consequence of his caution the Indians called him the Black Snake.

General Wayne rightly concluded that the ten days asked by these Indians was simply a scheme to get time, and having everything in readiness, immediately set out against the Indian camp. The Indians stood their ground and fought with desperate valor, but it was of no avail, as Wayne obtained a complete victory, the loss on both sides being considerable in killed and wounded. The battle was fought on the 29th day of August, 1794, Christopher Miller was in the engagement.

The troops under Wayne was short 900 men; the Indians and white engaged on their side was nearly 2,000. I have seen a calculation which makes 450 Delawares, 175 Miamies, 275 Shawnees, 225 Ottowas, 257 Wyandotts, and a small number of Seneas, Pottowatamies and Chippewas, and about 75 white men.

After the close of the campaign Miller returned to the valley, where Elizabethtown was laid off. He married a daughter of

Major George Walls, and settled in two miles of Elizabethtown as a farmer; raised a large family; and was justice of the peace, and afterwards a high sheriff of the county; was elected to the Legislature of Kentucky, and lived and died a highly honorable christian gentleman. Some of his decendants are still among us.

